

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims contains all of the claims that are, or ever have been, in the present application. This list will replace all other prior versions, and listings, of the claims:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1-14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (original): A process for manufacturing an implantable gel material comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a biomaterial having a large surface area, and a fluid;
- b. combining said biomaterial and fluid, wherein said surface area of said biomaterial becomes coated with said fluid; and
- c. applying a pressurizing force to said combined fluid and biomaterial wherein said biomaterial collapses into a malleable gel.

Claim 13 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said implantable gel material further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 17 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said fluid further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 18 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 19 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said fluid comprises a biologically active agent.

Claim 20 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 21 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said fluid further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 22 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 23 (original): The process of claim 15, wherein said implantable gel material comprises at least one polymer.

Claim 24-25 (cancelled).

Claim 26 (currently amended): A process for manufacturing an implantable gel material comprising the steps of:

- a. removing a fluid from a biomaterial solution or suspension having a first viscosity to leave a dry porous body presenting a large amount of surface area;
- b. rehydrating said ~~biomaterial~~ dry porous body with a volume of fluid less than the amount removed during step a, and further wherein said volume of fluid is less than that amount of fluid required to fully solubilize said dry porous body using mechanical shearing;
- c. allowing said surface area of said ~~biomaterial~~ dry porous body to become coated with said fluid; and applying a pressurizing force to the combined fluid and ~~biomaterial~~ dry porous body, wherein said ~~biomaterial~~ dry porous body collapses into a malleable gel having a second viscosity, wherein said second viscosity is greater than said first viscosity.

Claim 27 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said implantable gel material further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 28 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said fluid further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 29 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one biologically active agent.

Claim 30 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said fluid comprises a biologically active agent.

Claim 31 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 32 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said fluid further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 33 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said biomaterial further comprises at least one filler material.

Claim 34 (original): The process of claim 26, wherein said implantable gel material comprises at least one polymer.

Claim 35 (original): The process of claim 34, wherein said polymer comprises at least one natural polymer.

Claim 36 (original): The process of claim 34, wherein said polymer comprises at least one synthetic polymer.

Claim 37-60 (cancelled).